

B-4476

1376-94 NORTH AVENUE

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

This is an originally residential row which has been converted to commercial use on the ground floor. The building is a row of three-bay Swell Front houses, built between 1890-1901. The stores were added between 1914 and 1928. The stores are public; the housing, private.

D INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES FORM
SANDTOWN-WINCHESTER SURVEY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name N/A

other names/site number rowhouses & commercial structures/ B-4476

2. Location

street & number 1376-94 North Ave.

not for publication

city or town Baltimore

vicinity N/A

state Maryland

code MD

county

Baltimore City

code 510

zip code 21217

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

N/A

4. National Park Service Certification

N/A

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

10

Noncontributing

buildings

sites

structures

objects

Total

SDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form
(1376-94 North Ave.)
(Baltimore City, MD)

(Page 2)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC
COMMERCE/TRADE
COMMERCE/TRADE

Sub: multiple dwelling
business
specialty store

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: COMMERCE/TRADE
COMMERCE/TRADE

Sub: business
specialty store

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Romanesque
OTHER: Early 20th-century Commercial

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

roof

walls BRICK

other WOOD, STONE

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance See continuation sheet.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Community Planning and Development

(1376-94 North Ave.)
(Baltimore City, MD)

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Period of Significance 1890-1940

Significant Dates 1890-1928

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Maps

Bromley, G.W. and Co. Atlas of the City of Baltimore, Vol. 1. Philadelphia: 1885, 1896.
Hopkins, G.M. Map of the City of Baltimore, Maryland. 1876, 1877.
Sanborn Map Company. Insurance Maps, Baltimore, Maryland, Vols. 2,3, and 7. New York: 1890, 1901, 1914, 1928.
Simmons, Isaac. 1852 Revision of the Thomas H. Poppleton Map. Baltimore: 1852.

Baltimore City Directories

Enoch Pratt Free Library, North Avenue file

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Lot = 15' x 80'

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(Baltimore City, MD)

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UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—

— See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Block 3414, Lots 28-37

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are based on a city lot(s) retaining original property lines.

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title Elizabeth Jo Lampl & Kay Fanning/Architectural Historians
organization Robinson & Associates date July 1992
street & number 1710 Connecticut Ave., NW telephone (202) 234-2333
city or town Washington state DC zip code 20009

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Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name multiple owners

street&number _____ telephone _____
city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21217

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 5 & 6 Page 1

1376-94 North Avenue
name of property
Baltimore City, Maryland
county and State

HISTORIC CONTEXT

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance
Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape
Architecture, and Community Planning; Economic

Resource Type:

Category: building(s)

Historic Environment: urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): commerce

Known Design Source: none

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

1376-94 North Ave.
name of property
Baltimore City, Maryland
county and StateDESCRIPTION

This originally residential row of three-story, three-bay Swell Front houses, built 1890-1901, illustrates the early architectural conversion of residential rowhouses to commercial use. Streetcar lines established on North Avenue in the late-19th century spurred increased commercial development of this thoroughfare. The storefronts were added between 1914 and 1928.

The facade of the row has projecting two-bay sections, which create alternate rounded and flat facades. The foundation is rough-faced stone, and rough-faced stone beltcourses act as window lintels on each floor. Window sills are also rough-faced stone. The windows are one-over-one double-hung sash on the upper floor. The cornice is corbelled brick and denticulated wood.

The storefronts reflect slightly different eras of construction and different functions. The large, Queen-Anne glass transom canopies at 1378 and 1390 were popular in the second and third decades of the century and provided an easy way to demarcate the storefront from its residence above. The owners of #1394 obviously converted the residence into a bank (Sanborn Map, 1928) and appropriately selected a Classical Revival exterior with Ionic columns. Other storefronts, such as those at 1380 and 1382, featured simpler metal architrave cornices.

Today, many of the actual display windows have been altered.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 1

1376-94 North Ave.
name of property
Baltimore City, Maryland
county and StateSIGNIFICANCE

This block represents the early commercialization of North Avenue, which became a combined business/residential corridor in response primarily to the advent of the streetcar system along North Avenue. In 1890, the North Avenue Railway ran the first overhead electric "rapid transit" system along North Avenue between Division and 10th Streets. One year later, the route was extended to McCulloh Street. This block, just west of this point along the Avenue, was undoubtedly eyed as prime commercial property.

Transformation of the street from housing to stores/offices did not happen overnight, however. By 1914, the stretch on the north side of the Avenue between Pennsylvania and McCulloh was all dwellings, except for a few stores and saloons clustered near Pennsylvania Avenue and the Excelsior Theater at 1360 North Avenue.

By 1928, the Excelsior was joined by the Metropolitan Theater, near the Pennsylvania Avenue intersection. The remaining blocks of the street had become more commercial; almost equally divided between stores and dwellings on the first-floors. A few buildings even housed offices. The transformation from residence to commercial storefront typically was made by the placement in the first story of a stock millwork storefront and/or multi-paned transom system.

By the 1930s, the block represented a full-scale neighborhood service center. The occupants of this block in 1930 were as follows:

1376	John Gith & Sons, tailors
1378	Baltimore Upholstering Company
1380	Albert Meyer Dry Goods
1382	Liberty Clock & Novelty Company
1386	Mrs. Lula R. Smith, restaurant
1390	Howard's Cleaners
1394	Commercial Savings Bank

SANDTOWN-WINCHESTER/PENN-NORTH
RECONNAISSANCE-LEVEL SURVEY FORM

Survey No. B-4476

Neg. No. 8/13

Historic Name _____

Current Name/Use _____

Address(es) 1376-94 North Avenue

Resource/Property Type

☒ Rowhouses
☒ Commercial Structure
☐ Public/Institutional Building
☒ Attached
☐ Freestanding
☐ Public Housing
☐ Site
☐ Other

Note: originally dwellings; early conversion to stores

Stories 3 + B

Primary Material brick Secondary Material wood, stone

Roof Form flat

No. of Bays in Unit/Facade 3 If Rowhouse: ☐ Flat Front ☒ Swell Front ☐ Porch

Window Type: ☒ Double-Hung
☒ 1/1 Sash
☐ 2/2 Sash
☐ 2/1 Sash
☐ Other Sash
☐ Transom

Door Type: ☒ Single-Leaf
☐ Double-Leaf
☐ Number of panels (if visible)
☒ Transom

Architectural Style "Swell Front"/Early 20th Century Commercial Date c. 1890-1901

Summary Noteworthy Features: This originally residential row was converted to stores/offices early on; streetcar lines on North Avenue spurring commercial usage. Storefronts added 1914-28. Corbelled brick and denticulated wood cornice. Three-bay facades have projecting 2-bay sections, which alternate rounded and flat facades. Stone beltcourse acts as lintel; stone sills. Great variety of first-floor storefront additions, changes.

Alterations: ☒ Formstone ☐ Stucco
☐ Vinyl/Aluminum ☒ Window/Door Changes
☐ Awnings ☒ Missing Cornice Elements
☒ First-Floor Use Change ☐ Other: _____

Status: ☒ Occupied ☐ Vacant ☐ Mixed

NR Evaluation: ☒ Contributing ☐ Non-Contributing

Recommended for Intensive Level: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Surveyor: Joey Lamp

Affiliation: Robinson & Associates

Date: February-April 1992

202

2

DRUID HILL AV.

WHITELOCK

MAPLE

BEECH

FRANCES ST.

201

St.

Av

W. CROSBROOK AV.

201

CUMBERLAND ST.

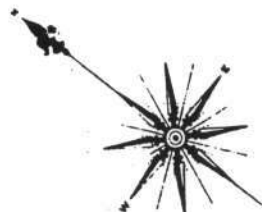
W. NORTH

AV.

ETTING ST.

191

DIVISION ST.



Scale of Feet

B-4476
1376-94 North Ave.
Baltimore, MD
Sanborn Map, 1901

616

M^S CULLOH

613

DRUID HILL AV.

CLEDENING

WHITELOCK

ZELL MOTOR CAR CO
AUTO SERVICE & REPAIR
CAPAC. 40 CARS
RENTAL SYSTEM LIGHTS ELECTRIC
CONCRETE FLOOR

CHRIST REFORMED
CHURCH
LADIES SOCIETY
BAPT. PARSONS

FRANCES ST

612

ETTING ST

ETTING ST

B-4476
1376-94 North Ave.
Baltimore, MD
Sanborn Map, 1928



B-4476
1376-94 North Avenue
Baltimore, MD
Baltimore West Quadrangle

B-4476



1374

1376



SANDTOWN - WINCHESTER / PENN. NORTH

B-4476

BALTIMORE, MD

ELIZABETH GO LAMPL

MARCH 1992

CITY OF BALTIMORE, COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

1376-94 NORTH AVE,

SOUTH ELEVATION

ROLL 8 / NEG 13

1 of 2



Sandtown-Winchester / Penn-North

B-4476

Baltimore, MD

Leonard Jackson

July 1992

City of Baltimore, Commission for Historical and Architectural
Preservation

1376-94 North Avenue

SOUTH ELEVATION

Roll 10/Neg 15

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